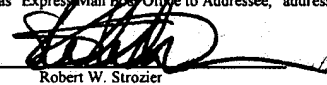


# ROBERT W. STROZIER, P.L.L.C.

A FIRM SPECIALIZING IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW INCLUDING  
PATENT, TRADEMARK, COPYRIGHT, TRADE SECRET LAW,  
UNFAIR COMPETITION AND RELATED MATTERS

2925 BRIARPARK, SUITE 930  
HOUSTON, TX 77042  
TELEPHONE: 713/977-7000  
TELECOPIER: 713/977-7011

November 20, 2003

EL 990 554 288 US	CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10	20 November 2003 Date of Deposit
I hereby certify that this Application and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," addressed to:		
 Robert W. Strozier	Commissioner for Patents MS NEW PATENT APPLICATION P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	20 November 2003 Date of Signature

19270 U.S. PTO  
10718259  
112003

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
MS NEW PATENT APPLICATION  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney Docket No:  
**02008/01CIPC2**

RE: US SN: 10/ ; FD: 11/20/03  
**Title: Apparatus for Providing Resistance to Cargo Spills**  
**Our Ref. No.: 02008/01CIPC2**

Dear Sir/Madam:

This letter is a request to file a **Continuation Patent Application** including: (1) a 35 page disclosure; (2) 24 sheets of Drawings (as filed and corrected and formal); (3) Utility Patent Application Transmittal (Small Entity); (4) Prior Executed Declaration; (5) a Preliminary Amendment; (7) an IDS; and (8) a Return Receipt Postcard.

Please return the enclosed postcard to acknowledge receipt and filing of this application and address all correspondence in connection with this application to:

ROBERT W. STROZIER  
P.O. Box 429  
BELLAIRE, TEXAS 77402-0429  
713.977.7000; 713.977.7011 (FACSIMILE)  
RWSTROZ@FLASH.NET

Very truly yours,

  
Robert W. Strozier

RWS/sls

Enclosures:

U.S. Original Patent Application with Declaration  
Transmittal – Large Entity  
Preliminary Amendment  
IDS  
Return Self-Addressed Stamped Postcard

The PTO did not receive the following  
listed item(s) PAGE 16-27 OF SPECIFICATION

**UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL****(Small Entity)**

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Docket No.

**02008/01CIPC2****EL 990 554 288 US**

Express Mail Number

**CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.10****20 November 2003**

Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that this Application and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents

**MS NEW PATENT APPLICATION**

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**20 November 2003**

Date of Signature

Robert W. Strozier

**TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS****MS NEW PATENT APPLICATION****P.O. Box 1450****Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Transmitted herewith for filing under 35 U.S.C. § 111(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) is a new utility patent application for an invention entitled:

**APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING RESISTANCE TO CARGO SPILLS**

and invented by:

**Keith A. Robinson**

Customer Number 23873

**23873**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

If this application is a **CONTINUATION APPLICATION**, check the appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

☒ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part

of prior United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/032,619, filed 1 November 2001 now United States Patent No. 6,508,189 issued January 21, 2003, which is a Continuation-In-Part Application of United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/676,900, filed on October 2, 2000 now United States Patent No. 6,494,156 issued December 17, 2002, which claims provisional priority to United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/165,421, filed on November 13, 1999.

Enclosed are:

**Application Elements**

1. ☒ Filing fee as calculated and transmitted as described below
2. ☒ Specification having **35** pages, including the following:
  - a. ☒ Descriptive Title of the Invention
  - b. ☒ Cross References to Related Applications (*if applicable*)
  - c. ☐ Statement Regarding Federally-sponsored Research/Development (*if applicable*)
  - d. ☐ Reference to Microfiche Appendix (*if applicable*)
  - e. ☒ Background of the Invention
  - f. ☒ Summary of the Invention
  - g. ☒ Brief Description of the Drawings
  - h. ☒ Detailed Description of the Invention
  - i. ☒ Claim(s) as Classified Below
  - j. ☒ Abstract of the Disclosure
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (when necessary as prescribed by 35 USC 113
  - a. ☒ Formal    b. ☐ Informal                      Number of Sheets 24 (drawing as filed and as corrected)
4. ☒ Oath or Declaration
  - a. ☐ Newly executed (original or copy)                      ☐ Unexecuted
  - b. ☒ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (*for continuation/divisional application only*)
  - c. ☐ With Power of Attorney                      ☐ Without Power of Attorney
  - d. ☐ DELETION OF INVENTORS  
Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference (usable if Box 4b is checked)  
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference.
6. ☐ Computer Program on Microfiche
7. ☐ Genetic Sequence Submission (*if applicable, all must be included*)
  - a. ☐ Paper Copy
  - b. ☐ Computer Readable Copy
  - c. ☐ Statement Verifying Identical Paper and Computer Readable Copy

**Accompanying Application Parts**

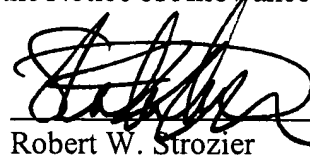
8. ☐ Assignment Papers (*cover sheet & documents*)
9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (*when there is an assignee*)
10. ☐ English Translation Document (*if applicable*)
11. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement/PTO-1449                      ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☒ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☒ Acknowledgment postcard
14. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (*if foreign priority is claimed*)
15. ☒ **Applicant claims the benefit of Small Entity Status**
16. ☐ Additional Enclosures (*please identify below*):

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**FEE CALCULATION AND TRANSMITTAL**

CLAIMS AS FILED					
	# Filed	# Allowed	# Extra	Rate	Fee
Total Claims	31	20	11	\$9.00	\$99.00
Indep. Claims	3	3	0	\$42.00	\$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
BASIC FILING FEE					\$385.00
TOTAL FILING FEE					\$484.00

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fees is enclosed.
- ☐ The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **501518** as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ as filing fees.
- ☐ Credit any overpayment.
- ☐ Charge any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17.
- ☐ Charge the issue fee set in 37 C.F.R. § 1.18 at the mailing of the Notice of Allowance pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.311(b).

Date: 20 November 2003  
Robert W. Strozier